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8/31/02IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Coslovi

Examiner: Jules, F.F.

Serial No.: 09/650,388

Art Unit: 3617

Title: VEHICLE CARRYING RAILROAD CAR AND BRIDGE PLATE THEREFOR

Filed: 29 August 2000

Date: 20 August 2002

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and accompanying the filing of a Request for Continued Examination, the Applicant encloses an Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant, citing eleven (11) United States patents, three (3) foreign patent documents and one non-patent document, comprising two sheets of photos, on one (1) sheet of Form PTO/SB/08A and one (1) sheet of Form PTO/SB/08B. A copy of the cited references in the Applicant's possession is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is filed with a Request for Continued Examination, no fee is required. If this is incorrect, please charge Deposit Account No. 15-0450 for any deficiency.

According to the terms of 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g) and (h), this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is or is considered to be material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

**REMARKS**

The references cited herein are intended to include at least all art cited to date in presently pending US Patent applications 09/649,790; 09/649,795; 09/650,400; 09/650,400; 09/651,544; and 09/651,660, all of which are owned by the assignee in the present case, National Steel Car Limited, of Canada.

The non-patent information is explained as follows: The applicant has become aware that Canadian Pacific railways assembled a multiple car body rail road flat car by rehabilitating several old 70-ton flat cars and joining them together with permanent draw bar connections between the car units to form a single railroad car with couplers at the ends. The number of units

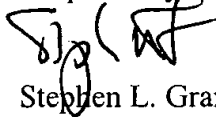
joined in this way is thought to have been about ten. The car employed MiniBuff short travel draft gear at the coupler ends, type E couplers, and traditional lifting bridge plates between the cars at the coupler ends. The accompanying photocopies of photographs show this experimental car.

The applicant has also become aware that Canadian Pacific Railways conceived of a multi-unit articulated railroad flat car with short travel draft gear and reduced slack couplers at least as early as December 1997. That car also included swivelling bridge plates at its internal articulated connectors and portable loading ramps to be carried with the railroad car, and guard rails along the deck to guide highway trailers in reverse movement.

The foregoing Information Disclosure Statement is based upon the information contained in the undersigned attorney's file as of the filing date of this statement and is inclusive of the best information known to the undersigned at that date.

Prompt consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and the references by the Examiner is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Atty Docket 115699-15

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